

REMARKS

IDS

The Applicants wish to thank the Examiner for considering the references cited on the PTO-1449s submitted on May 10, 2002 and January 4, 2002. However, it appears the Examiner inadvertently did not initial next to the citation for USPN 5,771,353 on the May 10, 2002 PTO-1449. The Applicants respectfully request that the '353 patent be considered. Also, the Applicants request that the Examiner initial next to the '353 patent and mail a copy of the completely initialed PTO-1449 with the next communication.

Pending Claims

Claims 1-10, 24-33, 37-47, and 50-62 are pending of which claims 1, 24, 47 and 62 are independent. Claims 11-23, 34-36, and 48-49 were withdrawn as being directed to the non-elected invention. In the Office Action, claims 1-6, 8, 24-29, 31, and 47 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Matsuda et al. (U.S. Pre-Grant Pub. No. 2002/0133573), hereinafter referred to as Matsuda. Claims 7, 9, 10, 30, 32, and 33 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Matsuda in view of Bell et al. (USPN 6,044,081), hereinafter referred to as Bell. These rejections are respectfully traversed.

Rejections Under 35 USC § 103 over Matsuda and over Matsuda in view of Bell

According to an embodiment of the invention, software is provided that facilitates registering servers with an intelligent messaging network, that facilitates communication between servers, and that facilitates encapsulation of communications between servers in the

intelligent messaging network. Server types may include, but are not limited to, protocol gateway servers, message routing servers, and back-end servers. When a server joins the network the server registers with the network. In one embodiment, this includes transmitting, among other thing, the server IP address and server type to another server for storage in a database, such as the MR DB 128 shown in figure 1C. Server class may also be stored in the database. Thus, other servers in the network may query the DB 128 to identify a server in the network to connect with based, for example, on server type and/or class. This may include identifying a server of a different type and its IP address to establish a connection. For example, the message router 124a shown in figure 1C may identify one or more protocol gateway servers and/or back-end servers to connect with. (See p. 20, lines 4-30).

Claim 1 recites wherein registration comprises storing a server id and a server type for the first server in a database storing server ids and server types for the plurality of servers.

Independent claims 24, 47, and 62 recite similar features.

Neither Matsuda nor Bell teach or suggest storing a server id and a server type in a database storing server ids and types for a plurality of servers in the network. The rejection of claim 2 states that Matsuda discloses specifying a server type, such as Master, Temporary_Master, or Not_Master. In paragraph 56, Matsuda discloses a user sets the state variable of a server NOA to be Master, Temporary_Master, or Not_Master. However, Matsuda fails to teach or suggest storing the state variable in a database. Bell discloses an encapsulation circuit for encapsulating signaling messages for a circuit-switched network for transmission in a packet-switched network. Bell also fails to teach or suggest registering servers and storing a server id and a server id in a database. Accordingly, claims 1-10, 24-33, 37-47, and 50-62 are believed to be allowable.

NEWLY ADDED CLAIMS

Matsuda and Bell also fail to teach or suggest many of the features of the dependent claims. For example, newly added claim 50 recites the second segment facilitates searching the database based on server type to identify the second server, the second server being of a sever type that the first server desires to connect with. Claim 56 recites similar features. Neither Matsuda nor Bell teach or suggest searching a database based on server type.

Claim 55 recites encapsulating a network access protocol used to transmit data from a client device to the first server, such that the network access protocol is transparent to the second server receiving the data from the first server. Claim 61 recites similar features. According to an embodiment of the invention, the protocol gateway server 116a encapsulates the network access protocol of the network 114 connecting the client device 112 to the servers. Therefore, a message transmitted from the client device 112 may be forwarded to the message router server 124a and one of the back-end servers, such that the network access protocol is transparent to the other servers. Neither Matsuda nor Bell teach or suggest encapsulating a network access protocol used to transmit data from a client device to the first server, such that the network access protocol is transparent to the second server receiving the data from the first server.

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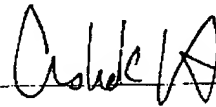
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CONCLUSION

As all of the outstanding rejections have been traversed and all of the claims are believed to be in condition for allowance, the Applicants respectfully request issuance of a Notice of Allowability. If the undersigned attorney can assist in any matters regarding examination of this application, the Examiner is encouraged to call at the number listed below.

Respectfully submitted.

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